

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 07491 231340Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 AGRE-00 EB-08 IO-14 ICA-20
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-----084546 232118Z /70
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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1530

UNCLAS LIMA 7491

USDA FOR OGSM

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR EAID PE
SUBJ: PL 480 TITLE I, EXPORT LIMITATIONS

REF: DELAPLANE - AGATT TELECON

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE GOP WISHES TO AUTHORIZE LOCAL MILLERS TO IMPORT WHEAT PRIVATELY FOR MILLING INTO FLOUR AND SUBSEQUENT EXPORT TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. BASIC IDEA IS TO MAKE USE OF IDLE MILLING CAPACITY UNDER CURRENT VERY DEPRESSED ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. HOWEVER, IN THE CASE OF ONE MILL LOCATED IN QUITOS, ADDITIONAL BENEFIT WOULD RESULT INsofar AS IT WOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPLY WHEAT FLOUR TO REMOTE AREAS IN COLOMBIA WHICH DO NOT HAVE EASY ACCESS TO FLOUR PRODUCED IN THAT COUNTRY.

2. AMEMBASSY HAS ADVISED THE GOP THAT WHEAT FLOUR EXPORTS ARE NOT ALLOWED UNDER THE EXPORT LIMITATION PROVISIONS OF THE PL 480 TITLE I AGREEMENT. THEY HAVE THEREFORE TAKEN NO STEPS TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSED EXPORT PROGRAM. AT THE SAME TIME THEY HAVE REQUESTED THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT TO ALLOW FOR FLOUR EXPORTS ACCORDING TO THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY. WE HAVE RECEIVED INFORMAL ASSURANCES FROM THE GOP THAT THEY WOULD CONSIDER THE WHEAT IMPORTED UNDER THE PROGRAM TO BE IN ADDITION TO THE AMOUNT AGREED TO IN THE SIGNED AGREEMENT, AND WOULD NOT
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PAGE 02 LIMA 07491 231340Z

COUNT AGAINST THE 740,000 MT UMR. ALSO THE PROGRAM, AS DESIGNED, WOULD REQUIRE THAT ALL WHEAT IMPORTED BY PRIVATE MILLERS BE RE-EXPORTED IN PROCESSED FORM (PRINCIPALLY FLOUR). THIS PROCEDURE WOULD, IN EFFECT, BE SIMILAR TO MILLING IN BOND, SINCE NONE OF THE PRODUCT COULD ENTER THE DOMESTIC MARKET AND, AT THE SAME TIME, NO WHEAT IMPORTED THROUGH NORMAL STATE (EPCHAP) CHANNELS COULD BE PROCESSED AND BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT.

3. WE URGE THAT POSITIVE CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO GOP REQUEST,
PARTICULARLY RE THE IQUITOS MILL. SUPPLYING REMOTE COLOMBIAN AREAS
WOULD UNLIKELY BE IN GREAT COMPETITION WITH OTHER POTENTIAL
COMMERCIAL MARKETS, AND MAY RESULT IN ACTUAL GREATER TOTAL WHEAT
EXPORTS.

4. APPRECIATE YOUR EARLIEST CONSIDERATION AND RESPONSE.
SHLAUDEMAM

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